

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT FOR BACTERIA TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD  
HOSKINS CREEK**

**COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: November 15, 2010**

**Notice is hereby given that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks comment on the proposed modifications to the bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) developed for Hoskins Creek in Essex and Queen and King Counties.**

The Hoskins Creek TMDL was developed to address the bacterial impairment of the tidal segment of Hoskins Creek. The TMDL was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on 3/27/08 and can be found at the following website:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl/apptmdls/rappvr/hoskins.pdf>

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) seeks written comments from interested persons on the modification of this TMDL. In the Hoskins Creek Bacteria TMDL approved by the U.S. EPA and the Virginia State Water Control Board (4/28/09), these changes are necessary for the following permitted dischargers:

- The Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) for the Residence (VAG404196), which is a single family home permitted discharge, and the Town of Tappahannock Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) (VA0071471) was transposed in the TMDL report. The Residence, which has a design flow of 0.001 million gallons per day (MGD) was given a WLA of 3.15E+09 counts/day, and the Town of Tappahannock, which listed a 0.8 MGD design flow, was assigned a WLA of 3.94E+06 counts/day. In addition, the instantaneous maximum single sample water quality standard of 104 counts/mL was incorrectly used to calculate the waste load allocations for both facilities. DEQ proposes to revise the report so that the Residence facility is assigned with the correct WLA calculation based on the geometric mean water quality standard of 35 counts/100mL. The correct WLA for the Residence (VAG404196) is 1.32E+06 counts/day, using the design flow of 0.001 MGD at a water quality standard of 35 counts/mL. The change to the facility's WLA is not the result of any permit change, rather the original TMDL contained incorrect values for the water quality standard and the maximum design flow.
- The Town of Tappahannock STP (VA0071471) listed an incorrect design flow of 0.8 MGD in the TMDL report. The correct maximum design flow is 0.95 MGD. In addition, the instantaneous maximum single sample water quality standard of 104 counts/mL was incorrectly used to calculate the waste load allocations of the facility. DEQ proposes to revise the report so that the Town of Tappahannock STP is assigned with the correct WLA calculation based on the geometric mean water quality standard of 35 counts/100mL. The correct WLA for (VA0071471) is 1.26E+09 counts/day, using the design flow of 0.95 MGD at a water quality standard of 35 counts/mL. The change to the facility's WLA is not the result of any permit change, rather the original TMDL contained incorrect values for the water quality standard and the maximum design flow.

- The correction of the two facilities' design flows and use of the geometric mean water quality standard results in a decrease of the current allocated waste load from 3.15E+09 counts/day to 1.26E+09, a decrease in the expansion for future growth (5X WLA) from 1.58E+10 counts/day to 6.30E+09 counts/day, and a decrease in the total allocated waste load from 1.90E+10 counts/day to 7.56E+09 counts/day. The total change in the WLA is equal to less than 1%.
- The correction of the WLA number from 1.90E+10 to 7.56E+09 results in an increase to the allocations assigned to the livestock, wildlife, and pet non-point sources in the TMDL report. The allocated load for livestock will increase from 5.35E+10 to 9.29E+09, for wildlife it will increase from 3.51E+12 to 3.60E+12, and for pets it will increase from 5.18E+10 to 8.99E+09. The total change in the LA is less than 1%.

The proposed changes above will neither cause nor contribute to the non-attainment of Hoskins Creek, as documented in the EPA approved TMDL report.

The public comment period for this modification will end on November 15, 2010. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Margaret Smigo, Piedmont Regional Office, Department of Environmental Quality, 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060, (804)527-5124, or email [Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov).